

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 03199 271019Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 HA-05 /109 W

-----014947 271103Z /14

R 270920Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7700

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS ALGIERS 3199

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP, SOPN, AG, SS, FR

SUBJ: SAHARA: FRENCH HOSTAGES FREED

REF: ALGIERS 3184(NOTAL)

1. OFFICIAL ALGERIAN MEDIA REVELLED EVENT PRESENTED THEM BY UNSYB'S VISIT TO ALGIERS DEC 23 TO TAKE POLISARIO'S EIGHT FRENCH HOSTAGES BACK TO PARIS AND FREEDOM. WALDHEIM WAS VERY CAREFUL NOT TO MAKE NEWS IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS, CONFINING HIMSELF TO EXPRESSING RELIEF THAT HOSTAGES WERE BEING FREED AND TO NOTING HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH SERIOUS SITUATION IN NORTHWEST AFRICA. NEVERTHELESS, HIS PRESENCE WAS MORE THAN SUFFICIENT FOR MEDIA AND FOR POLISARIO, AND FORMAL HANDLING OVER OF HOSTAGES TO WALDHEIM'S CUSTODY OF NOW IMMACULATLY CLAD HOSTAGES WAS COVERED IN DETAIL. MAIN SPEAKER FOR POLISARIO WAS MUKHTAR MALAYNIN OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE. ALGERIAN FONMIN BOUTEFLIKA ALSO MADE STATEMENT IN WHICH HE NOTED ALGERIA'S RELIEF THAT HOSTAGES WERE RELEASED AND CITING ALGERIAN EFFORTS TO THIS END, EFFORTS WHICH, HE SAID, HAD RESULTED IN WALDHEIM'S VISIT. WHILE PROFESSING TO ACCEPT FRENCH INTEREST IN PARTI-

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CULAR COUNTRY IN REGION, HE ASSERTED THAT FRANCE, AS PERMANENT MEMBER OF SECURITY COUNCIL, SHOULD NOT AGGRAVATE CONFLICTS IN REGION.

2. ALGERIAN REACTION TO FRENCH ROLE IN SAHARA CONFLICT HAS BEEN STRONG. FOREIGN MINISTRY CONVOKED ALL AMBASSADORS FOR INDIVIDUAL AUDIENCES DEC 22 TO RECEIVE A COMMUNICATION ON SAHARA. WE UNDERSTAND FROM VARIOUS DIPLOMATS HERE THAT MINISTRY'S DEMCARCHE WAS

ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR TO THAT MADE TO AMBASSADOR HAYNES DEC 20
(ALGERIS 3184 NOTAL) AND THAT OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO
COMMENT ON FRENCH ROLE. ALSO, FOLLOWING ITS MEETING DEC 25, ALGERIAN
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ISSUED STATEMENT CONDEMNING FRENCH ACTIONS IN
SAHARA AND CALLING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S ATTENTION TO GRAVE
SITUATION IN REGION.
HAYNES

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: ALGIERS
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771217/aaaaanuq.tel
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 129951
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAHARA: FRENCH HOSTAGES FREED
TAGS: PROP, SOPN, AG, SS, FR
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/72660efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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